

Amendments to the Specification

1. Please replace paragraphs 12, 18, and 22, as filed, with the updated versions provided below:

[0012] Fig. 1B shows the embodiment depicted in Fig. 1A in a side view, clearly showing the downward angling of each of the gathering head and the grasping member, with respect to a longitudinal axis of the elongated handle and the grasping sleeve, respectively.

[0018] Figs. 6A, 6B, and ~~[[6c]]~~ 6C depict exemplary (preferably flattened) gathering heads.

[0022] Importantly, embodiments of the invention may be provided with a downward angle of the gathering head 14 and the downward angle of the grasping member 28 that are substantially equivalent, and within a wide range of degrees. The actual downward angles employed for ~~[[of]]~~ each of the gathering head 14 and the grasping member 28, of a respective embodiment, are best determined by the actual usage and task that must be performed with that embodiment. When considering a most preferred embodiment of the invention, the downward angle of the gathering head and the downward angle of the grasping

member may be substantially within a range of 15 to 60 degrees. As appreciated by skilled persons, it may be desirable to provide a somewhat lesser angle for the downward angle of the grasping member, with respect to the downward angle of the gathering head, for certain embodiments.